

109TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 1902

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## AN ACT

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize funding for the establishment of a program on children and the media within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to study the role and impact of electronic media in the development of children.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Children and Media  
5       Research Advancement Act” or the “CAMRA Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

2 It is the purpose of this Act to enable the Centers  
3 for Disease Control and Prevention to—

4 (1) examine the role and positive and negative  
5 impact of electronic media in children’s and adoles-  
6 cents’ cognitive, social, emotional, physical, and be-  
7 havioral development; and

8 (2) provide for a report to Congress containing  
9 the empirical evidence and other results produced by  
10 the research funded through grants under this Act.

11 **SEC. 3. RESEARCH ON THE ROLE AND IMPACT OF ELEC-**  
12 **TRONIC MEDIA IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF**  
13 **CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS.**

14 Part P of title III of the Public Health Service Act  
15 (42 U.S.C. 280g et seq.) is amended—

16 (1) by redesignating the second section 399O  
17 (relating to grants to foster public health responses  
18 to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault,  
19 and stalking) as section 399P; and

20 (2) by adding at the end the following:

21 **“SEC. 399Q. RESEARCH ON THE ROLE AND IMPACT OF**  
22 **ELECTRONIC MEDIA IN THE DEVELOPMENT**  
23 **OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS.**

24 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of ap-  
25 propriations, the Secretary, acting through the Director  
26 of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (re-

ferred to in this section as the ‘Director’), shall enter into a contract with the National Academy of Science or another appropriate entity to review, synthesize, and report on research, and establish research priorities, regarding the roles and impact of electronic media (including television, motion pictures, DVD’s, interactive video games, digital music, the Internet, and cell phones) and exposures to such media on youth in the following core areas of development:

“(1) COGNITIVE.—Cognitive areas such as language development, attention span, problem solving skills (such as the ability to conduct multiple tasks or ‘multitask’), visual and spatial skills, reading, and other learning abilities.

“(2) PHYSICAL.—Physical areas such as physical coordination, diet, exercise, sleeping and eating routines.

“(3) SOCIO-BEHAVIORAL.—Socio-behavioral areas such as family activities and peer relationships including indoor and outdoor play time, interactions with parents, consumption habits, social relationships, aggression, and positive social behavior.

“(b) RESEARCH PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Taking into account the report provided for under subsection (a), the Sec-

1       retary, acting through the Director and in coordina-  
 2       tion with the Director of the National Institutes of  
 3       Health, shall, subject to the availability of appro-  
 4       priations, award grants for research concerning the  
 5       role and impact of electronic media on the cognitive,  
 6       physical, and socio-behavioral development of youth.

7               “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The research provided  
 8       for under paragraph (1) shall comply with the fol-  
 9       lowing requirements:

10               “(A) Such research shall focus on the im-  
 11       pact of factors such as media content (whether  
 12       direct or indirect), format, length of exposure,  
 13       age of youth, venue, and nature of parental in-  
 14       volvement.

15               “(B) Such research shall not duplicate  
 16       other Federal research activities.

17               “(C) For purposes of such research, elec-  
 18       tronic media shall include television, motion pic-  
 19       tures, DVD’s, interactive video games, digital  
 20       music, the Internet, and cell phones.

21               “(3) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to re-  
 22       ceive a grant under this subsection, an entity shall—

23               “(A) prepare and submit to the Director  
 24       an application at such time, in such manner,

1           and containing such information as the Director  
2           shall require; and

3           “(B) agree to use amounts received under  
4           the grant to carry out activities as described in  
5           this subsection.

6           “(c) REPORTS.—

7           “(1) REPORT TO THE DIRECTOR.—Not later  
8           than 15 months after the date of the enactment of  
9           this section, the report provided for under subsection  
10          (a) shall be submitted to the Director and to the ap-  
11          propriate committees of Congress.

12          “(2) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than  
13          December 31, 2012, the Secretary, acting through  
14          the Director, shall prepare and submit to the appro-  
15          priate committees of Congress a report that—

16                  “(A) synthesizes the results of—

17                          “(i) research carried out under the  
18                          grant program under subsection (b); and

19                          “(ii) other related research, including  
20                          research conducted by the private or public  
21                          sector and other Federal entities; and

22                  “(B) outlines existing research gaps in  
23          light of the information described in subpara-  
24          graph (A).

1       “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
2 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section,  
3 such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years  
4 2007 through 2012.”.

Passed the Senate September 13, 2006.

Attest:

*Secretary.*

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